Intervene in cotton market unless the prices of raw cotton fall below the minimum support price.

As regards (v), Government have discontinued the linkage of cotton yarn exports and fulfilment of Hank Yarn Obligation for yarn sold in the domestic tariff area.

As regard (vi) formal decision to the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme is yet to be received, although beneficiary sectors have been identified and the guidelines for implementing the scheme would be worked out immediately after receipt of the decision.

As regards (vii), the matter has been taken up with Ministry of Industry as they are concerned with it.

**Production and Export of Textile Items**

1849. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 301 given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st December, 1998 and state:

(a) the total production of textiles and garments in the country; and

(b) the actual exports of textile items during 1998-99 till date?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) The production and export figures of textile items are given below:

| Production of Textile items | 1997-98 |
|---|---|
| Spun Yarn (including SSI Units) | 2973.00 Mn. Kg. |
| Fabric (including Khadi, Wool & Silk) | 37346.00 Mn.Sq.Mtrs. |
| Man-made Fibre/ Filament Yarn | 1476969.00 tonnes |

| Textile Exports (worth) | 1997-98 |
|---|---|
| | 10334.74 Mn. US $ |
| | 7037.10 Mn. US $ (April-Oct., 1998) |

**Revival Package For NTC MILLS**

1850. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) When Government propose to implement the agreement made with Central Trade Unions on revival of 123 sick textile mills.

(b) whether Government have evolved any other revival package for the NTC mills; and

(c) whether Government would honour the agreement signed with the Central Trade Unions in 1995?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (c) The Textile Research Associations had prepared a plan for modernisation of 79 mills of NTC at an investment of Rs. 2005.72 crores. The modernisation plan, inter-alia, envisaged restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable mills. The Labour Ministry's Special Tripartite Committee on the NTC had recommended on 9.4.94 that NTC mills as well as its taken over mills (since nationalised) could be made viable by modernisation as proposed by the Textile Research Associations.

A Turn Around Strategy for NTC Mills was approved by Government in 1995. The plan was to be implemented through generation of funds from the sale of surplus land-assets of NTC. Major portion of this land is located in Mumbar. The approval of State Government of Maharashtra for sale of land is still awaited. Moreover, in case of four subsidiaries of NTC *viz* NTC (MP), NTC (Guj), NTC (WBAB&O) and NTC(UP),

BIFR have not approved the plan on account of their net worth not becoming positive during the prescribed period. In view of the above the strategy could not be implemented. In the meanwhile, on the basis of a unit wise viability study made by NTC, Government is considering a revised turn around strategy for the viable subsidiaries of NTC alongwith the viable mills under them keeping in view the BIFR norm of the net worth of these mills turning positive, within the period prescribed by BIFR. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

**Purchase of Cotton**

1851. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the Cotton Corporation of India to purchase cotton from farmers during the current cotton season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Cotton Corporation of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (c) The Cotton Coporation of India Ltd., (CCI) a PSU purschases cotton in all the cotton growing states except Maharashtra where the Monopoly Procurement Scheme of cotton of the State Government is in operation. As on 4th December, 1998, the CCI has purchased 26,701 bales of cotton in the current cotton season 1998-99 (Oct.,—Sept.).

**Closure of Cotton and Textile Mills**

1852. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cotton and textile mills lying closed at present, State-wise;

(b) the number of mills closed during 1996-97 and 1997-98 till date;

(c) the main reasons for their closure;

(d) the number of workers rendered jobless due to the closure particularly in Gujarat; and

(e) ,the steps taken by Government for their rehabilitation and resumption of production in these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) A Statement is attached, (see below)

(b) The number of Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills closed during 1996-97 and 1997-98 was 209 and 220 respectively.

(c) The mills were closed mainly due to financial problems, labour problems and shortage of power supply etc.

(d) The number of workers rendered jobless due to closure was 294000 approximately and in gujarat was 109574.

(e) Government has been implementing Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) for the workers rendered jobless due to partial/permanent closure of a mill. Government has established Board for Industrial and financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to tackle the problem of sickness.

**Statement**

*The Number of cotton/Man-made fibre textile mills closed as on 30.9.98, Statewise is given below:*

| Name of State/U.T. | Closed Mills |
|---|---|
| Andhra Pradesh | 23 |
| Assam | 4 |
| Bihar | 2 |
| Gujarat | 72 |
| Haryana | 9 |
| Karnataka | 11 |
| Kerala | 2 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 9 |
| Maharashtra | 29 |
| Orissa | 3 |
| Punjab | 4 |
| Rajasthan | 9 |